

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 38, line 33, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The amino acid sequence of the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferase of *Bombyx mori* (SEQ ID NO: 2) and the amino acid sequence of the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferase of *Drosophila melanogaster* (SEQ ID NO: 4) were compared. Based on well-conserved regions of both amino acid sequences, two degenerate primers were prepared: the DGJF primer (SEQ ID NO: 19; encoding the amino acid sequence of MVKYANKH (SEQ ID NO: ~~36~~ 37)) as a forward primer and the DGJR primer (SEQ ID NO: 20; encoding the amino acid sequence of FDHVFSFY (SEQ ID NO: ~~37~~ 38)) as a reverse primer. These primers were used to synthesize cDNAs by reverse transcription of RNAs extracted from the corpora allata of penultimate instar larvae of *Spodoptera litura* and *Helicoverpa armigera*. The cDNAs were used as templates for their respective PCRs, providing DNA fragments of about 120bp. Their nucleotide sequences were then determined, and specific primers were designed based on these sequences. Then 5' RACE and 3' RACE, a kind of modified RT-PCR, were carried out using SMART RACE cDNA Amplification Kit (CLONTECH CO.) to clone cDNAs containing the entire coding region of the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferases from *Spodoptera litura* and *Helicoverpa armigera*.